

Group a, I - steel as the high modulus material

II - Graphite as the high modulus material

III - titanium as the high modulus material;

IV - Boron as the high modulus material;

Group b, I - dry alarm;

II - wet alarm;

III - pressure alarm;

IV - vacuum alarm; and

Group c, I - distance fabric;

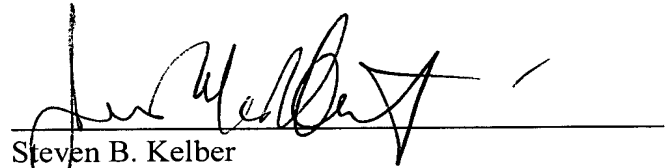
II - plastic film.

Applicants respectfully submit that examination of all currently pending claims would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure states that “[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.” Applicants therefore respectfully request examination of all currently pending claims.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER MARBURY RUDNICK & WOLFE LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven B. Kelber", is written over a horizontal line.

Steven B. Kelber
Registration No. 30,073
Attorney of Record

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085

James M. Heintz
Registration No. 41,828